

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed in view of the Official Action dated 12 May 2008. Responsive to the rejections and objections made in the Official Action, Claims 1, 6, 8-9, 12-15, 21-22, 25, and 32-33 have been amended. Claims 5, 10, 11, 16, 19-20, 26-27, and 29-31 have been cancelled.

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-5, 8, 10, 12-15, 17-18, 21-25, 28, and 33-34 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Cochran, et al., U.S. Patent 6,848,841. Additionally, the Examiner has rejected Claims 6-7, 9, 26-27, 29, 32, and 35 under U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Cochran, et al. in view of Blalock, et al., U.S. Patent 7,006,746.

In the Official Action the Examiner indicated Claims 36-58 were allowed. The Examiner has objected to Claims 11, 16, 19-20, and 30-31 for being dependent upon a rejected base Claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base Claim and any intervening Claims.

Applicant graciously acknowledges the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter. In addition, this Amendment has been made in the interest of advancing the prosecution of this case, given the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter, and is therefore being made without addressing the merits of the Examiner's rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103.

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Therefore, in view of the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter, it is believed that the currently amended Claims (those which now obviate the Examiner's objection), as well as the previously allowed Claims have put this case in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

No fees are believed to be due with this Amendment. If there are any charges associated with this filing, the Honorable Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account #18-2011 for such charges.

Respectfully submitted,  
For: ROSENBERG, KLEIN & LEE



Morton J. Rosenberg

Registration No.: 26,049

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Rosenberg, Klein & Lee  
3458 Ellicott Center Dr.  
Suite 101  
Ellicott City, MD 21043  
(410) 465-6678  
**Customer No.: 04586**